



**Parks and Recreation Department Board  
Minutes**

**July 24, 2001  
Regular Meeting**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Board was held on Tuesday, July 24, 2001 in the Board Room of the Parks and Recreation Department Main Office located at 200 South Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas.

**Board Members Present:** Rosemary Castleberry, Jeff Francell, Rhonda Taylor, Amy Babich and Carol Kim

**Board Members Absent:** Rocky Medrano, Mary Ruth Holder and Clint Small

**Staff Members Present:** Stuart Strong and Dina Haines

**A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. by Rosemary Castleberry, Chair.

- B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** July 10, 2001 meeting. **Board Member Francell** made the motion to approve the minutes as amended. **Board Member Taylor** seconded the motion. **The Board was in favor 5-0-0.**

**C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

**Mike McHone** spoke to the board opposing the proposed turning lane on 24<sup>th</sup> Street and Lamar Blvd.

**Scott Johnson** spoke to the board on his concern of people parking on the grass at Zilker Park and Robert E. Lee Road.

**D. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

1. Make a Recommendation Regarding the Construction of Whitehurst Boat Dock at 2703 Westlake Drive. File No. SP-01-0296 DS

**Board Member Kim** informed the board the item was pulled off the agenda.

2. Make a Recommendation to City Council Regarding Use Agreement for the Addition of a Northbound Turn Lane on Lamar Blvd at 24<sup>th</sup> Street through Dedicated Parkland.

**Board Chair Castleberry** informed the board of a letter distributed to the board from Mr. Jim Christianson, West Enfield Neighborhood Association, opposing the proposed project. Mr. Christianson's letter to the board stated his frustration with the Public Works Department for not keeping his neighborhood informed. The letter also stated he had attended an open house meeting of the Public Works in May 2000 and was told at that meeting to submit questions to Public Works. He stated his questions were never answered.

**Mike McHone**, Vice President, University Area Partners stated his concern for urban parkland to be utilized for roadway projects especially without some mitigation and without neighborhood notification that would be affected.

**Board Member Babich** informed the board that the Land and Facilities Committee was against of the proposed project. The committee's concerns included the potential to increase traffic, that no improvements will be made for pedestrian safety, there is a lack of public notice, the removal of several large trees, and construction of two retaining walls that would dramatically change the character of this park area.

**Richard Kroger**, Project Manager for the proposed project, was present to answer questions from the board. Mr. Kroger questioned if all neighborhoods in surrounding area had to be notified. Board Member Francell stated "yes", a written correspondence from each neighborhood stating that they were informed or approved. Mr. Kroger stated he would prepare a letter and attach it to the drawing of the intersection and how it will affect the parkland. Board member requested a copy of the letter as well.

**Board Member Francell** made the motion to postpone approving this project until the valid neighborhood associations have acknowledged the project and the mitigation plan has been finalized. **Board Member Taylor** seconded the motion. **The motion passed in favor 5-0-0.**

**E. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

None, Mr. Olivares was out of town.

**F. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Programs Committee

None

Land and Facilities Committee

**Board Member Babich** informed the board the Lamar Blvd at 24<sup>th</sup> Street project was discussed.

Navigation Committee

The Whitehurst boat dock, which was pulled from the agenda, July 24, 2001.

Bond Oversight Committee

None

**G. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

None

**H.** The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:40 p.m.